

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A skimmer system attached to a tank having fluid therein, the fluid in the tank defining a tank fluid surface, the system comprising:

- a) a reservoir to receive fluid from the tank, the fluid in the reservoir defining a reservoir fluid surface, the level of the reservoir fluid surface being maintainable below the level of the tank fluid surface;
- b) an inlet defining an inlet edge and an inlet surface, the inlet being positioned adjacent to the tank, the inlet edge being located below the level of the tank fluid surface, the inlet surface declining away from the tank, the inlet surface being positioned above the reservoir to transfer the fluid from the tank to the reservoir;
- c) a reservoir pump connected to the reservoir to transfer fluid from the reservoir to the tank;
- d) a filter between the inlet and the reservoir to retain particulate within the fluid; and
- e) a weir defining a weir edge, the weir edge being substantially below the level of the tank fluid surface to allow particulate in the fluid to pass under the weir when the reservoir pump is activated and to prevent particulate on the fluid from passing under the weir when the reservoir pump is deactivated.

2. The skimmer system of Claim 1 further comprising a fluid level regulator which monitors the reservoir fluid surface and controls the reservoir pump to maintain the level of the reservoir fluid surface sufficiently below the level of the tank fluid surface.

3. The skimmer system of Claim 2 wherein the fluid transfer rate of the reservoir pump is greater than the fluid transfer rate of the inlet.

4. The skimmer system of Claim 3 wherein the fluid level regulator activates the reservoir pump when the level of the reservoir fluid surface is not substantially below the level of the tank fluid surface.

5. The skimmer system of Claim 4 wherein the reservoir pump is activated for a set period of time to drain the reservoir.

6. The skimmer system of Claim 5 wherein fluid level regulator de-activates the reservoir pump when the fluid level regulator is in a down position.

7. The skimmer system of Claim 2 wherein the fluid transfer rate of the inlet is equal to the fluid transfer rate of the reservoir pump.

8. The skimmer system of Claim 1 wherein the inlet edge is about one inch below the level of the tank fluid surface.

9. The skimmer system of Claim 9 wherein the inlet edge is about 24 inches wide and an inlet opening is about four inches high.

10. The skimmer system of Claim 1 wherein the inlet surface has a decline of about 20 degrees.

11. The skimmer system of Claim 1 further comprising a conical tray with an aperture at the center thereof being positioned above the reservoir, the aperture being sized and configured to receive and secure the filter, the conical tray located under the inlet so as to receive the fluid transferring through the inlet.

12. The skimmer system of Claim 1 wherein the reservoir has capacity of about 12 to 16 cubic feet.

13. The skimmer system of Claim 13 wherein the reservoir has a cylindrical configuration.

14. The skimmer system of Claim 14 wherein the radius of the reservoir is thirty inches.

15. The skimmer system of Claim 13 wherein the reservoir has a cubular configuration.

16. The skimmer system of Claim 16 wherein the reservoir has a base dimension of thirty inches by thirty inches.

17. The skimmer system of Claim 1 further comprising an overflow valve attached to the reservoir one inch above the inlet edge.

18. The skimmer system of Claim 1 further comprising a cover for closing a utility access opening formed in a fabricated surface surrounding the tank and positioned above the filter, the access opening extending through the fabricated surface having an exposed appearance, the cover comprising a cap member engagable within the opening, the cap member having a cross sectional cavity adapted to receive a selected material, the

cap member further having at least one hand engagable grip for lifting the cap member and the material placed in the cavity of the cap member from the opening, wherein the cap member with the material disposed within the cavity thereof provides an exposed surface having an appearance substantially identical to the exposed appearance of the fabricated surface.

19. A cover for closing a utility access opening, the access opening extending through a fabricated surface having an exposed appearance, the cover comprising:

a) a cap member engagable within the opening, the cap member having a cross sectional cavity adapted to receive a selected material; the cap member further having:

i) at least one hand engagable grip for lifting the cap member and the material placed in the cavity of the cap member from the opening;

ii) wherein the hand engagable grip(s) is positioned at a periphery of the cap member;

b) wherein the cap member with the material disposed within the cavity thereof provides an exposed surface having an appearance substantially identical to the exposed appearance of the fabricated surface.

20. The cover of Claim 20 wherein the selected material is castable.

21. The cover of Claim 20 wherein the cap member additionally has at least one hole for draining moisture from the material placed within the cavity of the cap member.

22. The cover of Claim 20 having two hand engagable grips which are a pair of hollow tubes for creating respective holes extending through the cap member and the materials placed in the cavity of the cap member, the tubes being sized for receiving human fingers and having a flared cross section for gripping the tube with human fingers, the two hand engagable grips being formed opposite each other and aligned with a center of gravity of the cap member and the selected material placed in the cavity of the cap member.

23. The cover of Claim 20 wherein the cap member has a bottom plate, a lateral wall, and a plurality of support posts disposed within the cavity of the cap member wherein each post is attached to both the bottom plate and the lateral wall.

24. An access assembly for constructing a covered access opening, the access opening extending through a fabricated surface having an exposed appearance, the assembly comprising:

- a) a frame having an opening for lining a wall surface of an access passage through the fabricated surface; and
- b) a cap member engageable within the opening of the frame, the cap member having a cross sectional cavity adapted to receive a selected material, the cap member further having at least one hand engageable grip for lifting the cap member and the material placed in the cavity of the cap member from the opening, the hand engageable grip(s) being formed at a periphery of the cap member.

25. The assembly of Claim 25 wherein the selected material is castable.

26. The assembly of Claim 25 wherein the cap member additionally has at least one hole for draining moisture from the material placed within the cavity of the cap member.

27. The assembly of Claim 25 having two hand engageable grips which are a pair of hollow tubes for creating respective holes extending through the cap member and the materials placed in the cavity of the cap member, the tubes sized for receiving human fingers and having a flared cross section for gripping the tube with human fingers.

28. The assembly of Claim 28 wherein the two hand engageable grips being formed opposite each other and aligned with a center of gravity of the cap member and the selected material placed in the cavity of the cap member.

29. The assembly of Claim 25 wherein the cap member has a bottom plate, a lateral wall, and a plurality of support posts disposed within the cavity of the cap member wherein each post is attached to both the bottom plate and the lateral wall.

30. The assembly of Claim 25 additionally comprising a selected material within the cavity and wherein the selected material has an appearance substantially identical to the exposed appearance of the fabricated surface.

31. The assembly of Claim 25 additionally comprising a selected material within the cavity and wherein the selected material has an appearance compatible with the exposed appearance of the fabricated surface.

32. The assembly of Claim 25 wherein the frame has an interior rim for engaging the cap member.